

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 33 of 1882.]

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 19th August 1882.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī"	Calcutta ...	2,100	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Bhārat Hitaishī"	Burrisal ...	.....
3	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	600	6th August 1882.
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	.....	14th ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
5	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Calcutta ...	700	14th ditto.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....	18th ditto.
7	"Bangabāsi"	Ditto ...	.....	12th ditto.
8	"Bārtābaha"	Pubna ...	.....
9	"Bhārat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....	15th ditto.
10	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensing ...	671	7th and 15th August 1882.
11	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000	
12	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	15th August 1882.
13	"Chāruvartā"	Sherepore, Mymensing	.....	14th ditto.
14	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	350	13th ditto.
15	"Dūt"	Calcutta ...	.....
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	18th ditto.
17	"Gramvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly ...	.....	12th ditto.
18	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta ...	.....	12th ditto.
19	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye...	200	16th ditto.
20	"Medinī"	Midnapore ...	.....	14th ditto.
21	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ...	487	11th ditto.
22	"Murshī'ābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
23	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta ...	850	14th ditto.
24	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	.....	6th ditto.
25	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	275	11th ditto.
26	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah ...	.....
27	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	250	17th ditto.
28	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah ...	500	13th ditto.
29	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	16th ditto.
30	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs.	.....	14th ditto.
31	"Sudhākar"	Mymensing ...	.....
32	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta ...	4,000	
33	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet ...	440	
34	"Tripurā Vartāvaha"	Commillah ...	.....	5th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
35	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Calcutta ...	700	11th to 17th August 1882.
36	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	10th to 17th ditto.
37	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	14th to 18th ditto.
38	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	11th to 17th ditto.
39	"Prabhāti"	Ditto ...	.....	15th to 17th ditto.
40	"Samāchār Sudhābarsan"	Ditto ...	.....
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Urdu Guide"	Ditto ...	365	12th August 1882.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
HINDI.				
Weekly.				
42	"Behár Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna ...	500	10th August 1882. 14th ditto. 12th ditto.
43	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	500	
44	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	200	
45	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	.....
PERSIAK.				
Weekly.				
46	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Ditto ..	250	11th ditto.
URDU.				
Weekly.				
47	"Akhhár-i-Darussaltanat"	Ditto ...	.....
Bi-Weekly.				
48	"Amir-ul-Akhhár"	Ditto ...	.....
ASSAMESE.				
Monthly.				
49	"Assam Vilásiní"	Sibsagar ...	.....
URIYA.				
Weekly.				
50	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	200	
51	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	160	
52	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	125	
53	"Purnsottam Patriká"	Pooree ...	.....
Fortnightly.				
54	"Mayurbhunj Pákshik Pátriká"	Mayurbhunj ...	.....
HINDI.				
Monthly.				
55	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna ...	.....

POLITICAL.

The *Navavibhakar*, of the 14th August, contains an article on Egyptian affairs, in which the writer states it as his opinion that England will not probably take possession of Egypt, but will keep the Khedive under a kind of protectorate. The object of the British Cabinet is doubtless to secure the safety of the Suez canal, and establish a paramount influence in Egypt. If this object is attained, the Sultan's influence in that country will be destroyed, the interests of the bond-holders secured, and all probability of Russia being able, in case of a war with England, to send troops from Armenia in the direction of the Suez canal or the Persian Gulf, removed for ever.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
August 14th, 1882.

2. The *Sahackar*, of the 16th August, observes in reference to the offer of native princes to place portions of their army at the disposal of Government for service in Egypt, that this is a signal proof of their loyalty to the paramount power. The writer advises Government to accept their loyal offer. This would, while it would benefit Government, be exceedingly gratifying to the native princes. A further advantage would be that there would not remain the necessity of sending to Egypt any very considerable portion of the Indian Army which is, after all, not very large.

SAHACHAR,
August 16th, 1882.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

3. The *Bangabasi*, of the 12th August, condemns the proposal made by the Chief Commissioner of Assam, to legalize the practice on the part of the local officials of impressing labourers for Government works. The proposed measure, if adopted, will open a wide door to oppression.

BANGABASI,
August 12th, 1882.

4. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 13th August, condemns the proposal made by English Ministers in Parliament that the cost of the Indian expeditionary force which has been ordered for service in Egypt should be paid by India. This proceeding is opposed to justice. [See paragraph 2 of our last report.]

DACCA PRAKASH,
August 13th, 1882.

5. Referring to the last Report of Mr. Monro on the administration of the Police Department, and the Government Resolution on it, the *Sadharani*, of the 13th August, remarks that it was but perfectly natural that Mr. Monro, himself the writer of the report, should state that "the result of police operations has been on the whole satisfactory." Nor should it cause any feeling of surprise to find that the new Lieutenant-Governor, who certainly knows little or nothing of the work, good and bad, of the police in 1881, should direct his Secretary to write that "in this view the Lieutenant-Governor concurs." But what about the fact that the people do not accept the view thus put forth by Mr. Rivers Thompson and Mr. Monro? There are only three answers possible to this question, namely, (1) that the people cherish an insensate dislike for Government and for the police; (2) that they are disposed to crime, and that the police prevents them from indulging in it,—hence the unpopularity of the police is a proof of its efficiency; and (3) that it matters very little what the people think of the police; we do not listen to what they say. Now it is because one or other of these ideas finds a place in the minds of the rulers that the police continues on the whole as wicked and inefficient as ever. It may have become less wicked than before, but then it has grown more inefficient. The proof of this is found even in the present report of Mr. Monro. In connection with this subject the editor

SADHARANI,
August 13th, 1882.

publishes a note in English on the Police by Babu Joy Krishna Mukherji, the zemindar of Utterparah.

SOM PRAKASH,
August 14th, 1882.

A correspondent of the *Som Prakásh*, of the 14th August, dwells, in a long letter to that journal, on the poverty of the people of Behar. They are divided into two large classes, namely, day-labourers and cultivators. The condition of the former is one of utter destitution. Wages are so low that even the earnings of a whole family do not suffice for the purpose of procuring a full meal for all the members. The cultivators are equally miserable. They do not possess any rights in the land, and are deeply indebted to the zemindar or the mahajun. Owing to the difficulty of procuring water and other circumstances involving much labour and outlay of money, agricultural operations have to be carried on at a great disadvantage; add to this the exactions of the landlords and their whole host of servants. The writer earnestly implores Mr. Rivers Thompson to proceed with the legislation which Sir Ashley Eden had initiated for the benefit of the Behar peasantry. Let them be granted occupancy rights in the land by law, and when that is done, let Government actually institute enquiries to see whether they have been enabled to enjoy what the law has given them.

SOM PRAKASH.

7. The following is the substance of a long article in the same paper headed "Clerks in Government offices":—

Native clerks in Government offices.

The over-worked clerks in Government offices have no prospect of promotion, and are, it would seem, born to suffer hardship. The British Government has long assured the people of this country of its desire to appoint natives to high posts in the public service. There are no doubt many Englishmen who sincerely desire this, but there are others, again, and they form a large majority, to whom natives have become an eyesore. They are extremely opposed to the advancement of educated and industrious natives. Native journalists are frequently charged with ingratitude to the ruling power, but the fact is, they do not praise where praise is not deserved. Where, on the contrary, praise is due, they grow eloquent. Thus they look upon Lord Ripon and Major Baring, who are always anxious to do good to this country, as gods. But what can these two do against the machinations of the all-powerful civilians, who, in the matter of appointment to the public service, first provide their friends and relatives with posts, and then attend to the wants of East Indians and native Christian converts? What remain after providing for all those people fall to the lot of educated natives. There were formerly in important Government offices native clerks filling superior posts; a few such still remain; but they have no prospect of promotion. It is not difficult to prove this. Excepting the Military Department, there are four other large offices which constitute the India Secretariat, namely, the Home, Foreign, Financial, and Agricultural Departments. Formerly there were in all these offices many natives filling the higher appointments, but now they have all made way for Europeans, Eurasians, or Christian converts. There are only a few natives in the Financial Department who receive somewhat high salaries. Natives have been excluded from all other offices. [Here a table is given showing the number of natives in the different offices of the India Government, together with their salaries, &c.] Now what is the reason of this? Are not natives trustworthy? Natives may complain and grumble, but Government may rest assured that they do not betray confidence. The writer then proceeds to direct the attention of Mr. Buck, Secretary in the Agricultural Department, to the injustice that has been done to natives in his office. The Registrar, who is an East Indian, is extremely averse to the appointment of native clerks, so all the higher posts have been given to East Indians, while native Christian converts are being appointed to the lower posts. The only native in this office, who gets a salary exceeding Rs. 100 a month, was brought there

by Mr. Buck himself; otherwise an East Indian would doubtless have filled that post. Mr. Buck, it is to be hoped, will attend to this matter.

8. The same paper advises the people of this country, now that Government is more anxious to provide education and employment for East Indians than for them, to betake themselves to manufacturing industries. The manufacture of paper, it is pointed out, if taken in hand, may prove remunerative.

SOM PROKASH,
August 14th, 1882.

9. In noticing the last Report on the administration of the Police Department, the same paper dwells on the oppression committed by police officers upon the people, and condemns their utter unscrupulousness in fabricating evidence, and inflicting corporal punishment upon accused persons. This unsatisfactory state of things is in a large measure, due however, to the action of Government, which is displeased whenever the number of convictions in a year is small. It is thus that a premium is held out to highhandness.

SOM PRKASH.

Last report on the administration of the Police Department.

10. The *Navavidhakar*, of the 14th August, observes in reference to the difference of opinion between district officers on the one hand, and the Inspector-General of Police on the other, regarding the value of the work done last year by village punchayets in Bengal, that it is difficult to say whose views are erroneous. If the punchayet system has not worked well, it has not, on the contrary, lost in efficiency. What is to be regretted is that Mr. Monro, though he has expatiated on the shortcomings of the members of village punchayets, has not suggested any measures for improving the efficiency of that institution, beyond proposing the appointment of a commission to report on the whole subject. It is not, however, clear that anything will be gained by the proposed measure. No good results will be obtained until competent men are appointed to the punchayet; nor is it probable that such men will be willing to accept the office until the powers which it carries with it are increased. The punchayets are now chiefly required to do two things, namely, (1) the assessment and collection of the chowkidaree tax, and (2) regularly paying the salaries of the chowkidars. This work does not possess sufficient attraction for men of ability. No one would work willingly and gratuitously if there was not the attraction held out to him of the exercise of large powers. Owing to injudicious selections of persons for a particular work, and the lack of inducement afforded by the possession of power, not a few measures adopted by Government have failed to produce results which were expected of them. No matter whether it is the system of trial by jury or the institution of Honorary Magistracy or that of village punchayet, it is the faulty selection of instruments which has led to failure. It therefore behoves the authorities to attend to this matter. It is to be hoped that both local officials and the native public in the mofussil will endeavour to acquaint the Lieutenant-Governor with the true cause of the decline of the punchayet system, the abolition of which, if that result is brought about through the indiscreetness of officials lacking patience and experience, will prove injurious to the best interests of the people.

NAVAVIDHAKAR,
August 14th, 1882.

Village punchayets.

11. The same paper is exceedingly gratified to read of the sentence that has been passed by Mr. Justice Straight, of the Allahabad High Court, on Sergeant Whittaker, who had shot a native of Meerut. The Judge's charge to the jury is much appreciated.

NAVAVIDHAKAR.

Sentence passed on Sergeant Whittaker.

12. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 14th August, observes in reference to the death of the Maharajah of Mayurbhunj, who has left a widow and a minor son, that Government should appoint a native manager to the

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
August 14th, 1882.

Affairs of Mayurbunj.

estate. The Commissioner of Orissa, it is said, desires to appoint a European to this office—an appointment which will be extremely disagreeable to the parties concerned, inasmuch as a European manager is often found perfectly unacquainted with the manners and customs of those with whom he has to come in contact. Such an appointment will be the more objectionable in the present case, owing to the fact that the Maharani and the inhabitants of Mayurbhunj are all strict Hindus.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
August 14th, 1882.

13. A correspondent of the same paper remarks, in reference to the recent order of the Lieutenant-Governor directing the appointment of an additional

comparing clerk in civil courts, that the measure was urgently called for. The writer, however, regrets to notice that the case of the overworked mohurirs employed in civil courts, whose work has gone on increasing from year to year, has not yet received any attention. The Lieutenant-Governor is earnestly implored to attend to their condition.

MEDINI,
August 14th, 1882.

14. The *Medini*, of the 14th August, dwells upon the necessity of connecting Midnapore with Orissa by railway.

The projected Orissa railway. If this were done, enormous quantities of food-grain might be imported into that district. The writer therefore suggests that the projected Orissa railway should pass through Midnapore.

CHARU VARTA,
August 14th, 1882.

15. The *Charu Vartá*, of the 14th August, remarks that, now that the Lieutenant-Governor is in Mymensing, it behoves him to re-consider the decision of

Rajah of Susanga Durgapore. Government in the case of the Maharajah of Susanga Durgapore, who has been unfairly deprived of the Garo Hills. The Maharajah is the head of the East Bengal native community, and a more polished, popular, and loyal gentleman it would be difficult to find. It is to be hoped Mr. Rivers Thompson will, after careful consideration, repair the injury that has been done to him through the action of Government.

CHARU VARTA.

16. The same paper says that much inconvenience and hardship will be caused to the inhabitants of Sherepore by the sudden transfer of the munsif of that place to Hosseinpore. The Sherepore munsif is now without a munsif. Work is accumulating, but there is no one to go through it.

BHARAT MIHIR,
August 15th, 1882.

After describing the preparations that have been made by the officials and leading inhabitants of Mymensing for the reception of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 15th

August, makes the following observations:—Now that His Honor is about to come to Mymensing, it is to be hoped he will, while here, see everything with his own eyes. Let him not allow himself to be imposed upon by the glitter and pomp that will greet his eyes. If he does not, after careful enquiry made by himself, collect information regarding the condition of this district in respect of agriculture, education and other matters, his visit will prove of no more benefit than a perusal by him of official reports. His visit to the jail, hospital, court, school, and other public institutions will be of no use if his eyes cannot penetrate through their polished exterior, and discover their real wants. Will he not satisfy himself as to the inconvenience which is caused to the public by the long distance which separates the civil from the criminal court-house in this place? The condition of prisoners in the jails, and of patients in the hospitals, should be carefully enquired into.

Mymensing is not, in point of wealth, behind any other district of east Bengal. It contributes a large amount of revenue to the public exchequer. Most of the landlords here are educated and experienced men,

who take an interest in works of public usefulness. The number of educated men is not here small. In fact, the spread of education has been wonderful; and yet, with all these advantages, the progress of Mymensing has been far from considerable. The reason of this is not far to seek. For the best part of the year the Brahmaputra ceases to be a navigable stream, while, on the other hand, there is an absence of railway communication with the district. It is these causes that have operated to make the wealth and education of Mymensing barren of results. As regards the extension of local self-government, the Lieutenant-Governor may rest assured that if the benefit is conferred even to its fullest extent upon the inhabitants of this district, there will be no risk of failure. Another matter should receive His Honor's attention when in Mymensing, namely, the case of the Maharajah of Susanga Durgapore, who has been deprived of his valuable property, the Garo Hills, by Government.

18. The same paper remarks that again has India been sacrificed to promote the interests of the English people.

The cost of the Indian contingent ordered for Egypt.

The people of this country have not yet forgotten the history of the repeal of the cotton duties, and now they are going to be saddled with the cost of the Indian expedition to Egypt. During the debate which took place in Parliament on this subject, there was no one to advocate the interests of India. This has been painfully the case since the Liberals came into power. The reasoning employed by Lord Hartington to justify his action in this matter has produced a feeling of surprise in the minds of the people of India. It was remarked by the Secretary of State that the proposed measure would show what vast confidence England reposed in the Indian army. Now if the only proof that could be given of the fact that confidence was deserved, lay in paying the costs of the expeditionary force, the people of this country were not prepared to furnish that proof. Nor is the sending of Indian troops to Egypt a matter which in a pre-eminent degree shows the confidence of England in India, the people of which have deluged their country with the blood of their kindred in order to make it over to British rule. But all glory to Lord Ripon, and praised be his sense of justice, inasmuch as he refused to pay the charge in question from the Indian revenues.

BHARAT MIHIE,
August 16th, 1882.

19. The same paper contains an article headed "The iron industry".

Iron industry in India.

The writer thanks Lord Ripon for providing the people of this country with the means of acquiring a political education, as well as with facilities for developing its material resources. The recent resolution of his Government on the iron industry of India is much appreciated.

BHARAT MIHIE.

20. The same paper regrets to have to notice that Lord Ripon's

The Bogra Sankirtan case.

Government has not thought fit to interfere with the decision of the Government of Bengal in the Bogra Sankirtan case. The people are extremely disappointed at this result of their appeal to the Viceroy, who they had expected would do them justice.

BHARAT MIHIE.

21. A correspondent of the *Sahachar*, of the 16th August, suggests the propriety of having the words "The address only to be written on this side,"

East India post-cards.

which are now found on the back of East India post-cards, translated into Bengali and printed there. These post-cards are now being extensively used; but natives who do not know English frequently write additional words on the back of these post-cards, and are consequently fined.

SAHACHAR,
August 16th, 1882.

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Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

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